

TOP SECRET

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PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD

708 Jackson Place, N.W.

Washington 25, D.C. JAN 9 - 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Walter B. Smith  
Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Draft Psychological Strategy for Southeast Asia

Pursuant to the Board's decision of December 18, 1952, regarding completion of pending planning projects, I enclose a copy of the draft of Psychological Strategy for Southeast Asia for consideration by the Psychological Strategy Board on January 15, 1953.

In order to meet the Board's deadline, it has proved necessary to curtail the usual period for coordination of agency and PSB staff comments on the panel draft. Some changes are therefore to be expected in the present text, and if any agreed revisions are received before January 15, they will be transmitted to the Board as corrigenda to the basic paper. I hope, therefore, that by the time of the Board meeting, the paper will be in such shape as to permit at least approval in principle.

It is my feeling that if time had permitted, a more succinct and better-integrated plan would have furnished more useful guidance. On the other hand, it is evident that the panel, in addition to supplying a wealth of illustrative suggestions for subsequent implementation planning, has constructively clarified some of the problems of psychological strategy which have hitherto impeded U. S. operations in Southeast Asia. If the Board ratifies the panel's work, it will thus permit a swift development of U. S. psychological programs in a critical area.

It is requested that special security precautions be observed in the handling of the enclosure, and that access to it be restricted on a need-to-know basis.

Alan G. Kirk  
Director

Enclosure:

PSB D-23 - Psychological  
Strategy for Southeast Asia,  
dated January 5, 1953